

ARTICLES,

OF

Visitation and Enquiry

Concerning MATTERS

Ecclesiastical

EXHIBITED

To the Ministers, Church-Wardens
and Sidemen of every Peculiar or Prebendal
Parish Church belonging to the Cathedral
Church of the Blessed Virgin

St. Mary of **LINCOLN**

In the Triennial VISITATION of the
Right Worshipful

MICHAEL HONYWOOD

Doctor in Divinity, Dean of the
said Cathedral Church.

LONDON.

Printed by Tho. Milbourn in Fewen-Street, 1673



*The Tenor of the Oath to be Administred
to the Church-Wardens, and Side-men
of every Parish.*

YOU shall Swear, truly to execute the
Office of a Church-Warden with-
in the Parish of
and true Presentment make according to
the Book of Articles given you in charge,
so farr as by Law you are bound. So help
you God, by the contents of that Book.



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ARTICLES

OF

Visitation and Enquiry

Belonging to the Cathedral Church within the Peculiar
and Prebendal Churches of

LINCOLN

TITUL. I.

*Concerning Churches and Chappels, with the Ornaments
and Furniture thereunto belonging.*

I. **I**S your Parish Church or Chappel kept in good and sufficient Repair? Are the Roofs thereof well covered with Lead, Tile, or Slate? the Windows well Glazed, the Floors well Paved, the Seats well Fastned, and conveniently placed; and all things so decently ordered, as becommeth the House of God?

II. **H**ATH the Steeple or Tower of your Church or Chappel, or any part thereof been pulled Down, or any of the Lead or Bells formerly belonging thereunto, been imbezelled, sold or made away? In whose Hands or Custody doth the same, or any part thereof Remain? Declare what you know or have heard herein.

III. **I**S there a Font or Stone, with a good Cover thereunto, standing in a convenient place towards the lower part of your Church, for the Administration of Baptism? And is there in your Chancel, a decent Communion Table, for the Administration of the Lords Supper, with a Carpet of Silk, Stuff, or fine Wollen Cloth, and another Covering of white and pure Linnen to spread thereupon: And have you a fair Communion Cup, or Chalice, with a Cover of Silver, and one or more Flaggons of Silver or Pewter, thereunto belonging?

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IV. HAVE

Articles of Visitation.

IV. HAVE you in your said Church or Chappel, a convenient Seat or Pew for your Minister to read Divine Service in : A Pulpit with a comely Cloth or Cushion for the same : a Bible of the last Translation, in a large Volum, and the Book of Common Prayer, both well and substantially Bound : Have you likewise the Book of Families, set forth by Authority : A Book of Canons and Constitutions Ecclesiastical : And a Printed Table of the degrees wherein Marriage is prohibited :

V. HAVE you a comely large Surplice for the Minister to wear at all times of his Puplick Ministration in the Church, provided, and to be duly washed at the charge of the Parish :

VI. HAVE you a Register Book of Parchment, wherein to Register the Names and Surnames of all such persons as are Married, Christned or Buried, within your Parish : together with the Names and Surnames of both the Parents of the Children so Christned, exprelling the day, moneth and year of all such Christnings, Marriages and Burials : And is the transcript thereof yearly, within one Moneth next after the 25 of March, brought into the Deans Registry at Lincoln :

VII. HAVE you likewise another Book of Paper, wherein to record the Names and Licences of all such Strangers as are admitted at any time to Preach in your Church or Chappel : As also a third Book wherein to write down the Church-wardens Accounts : together with a strong Chest with Locks and Keys, wherein to keep the aforesaid Books, and all other the aforesaid mentioned Furniture in safe Custody : And lastly, have you a Bier, with a black Hearst-cloth, for the Burial of the Dead :

TIT. II

Concerning the Church-yard, the Houses, Gleabs and Tithes, belonging to the Church.

I. IS your Church-yard sufficiently fenced with Walls, Rails, or Pales ; and decently kept from the annoyance of Swine, Horses, and other Cattel : Hath any person encroached upon the same : or made any dooz into it, out of his own ground or habitation, without allowance from the Ordinary : Have any Trees there growing been cut down : how long since : by whom : and to whose use and benefit :

II IS

I. IS the House of your Parson, Vicar, or Curate (with all the out-houses thereunto belonging) kept in good and sufficient repair? And have any of the said Houses or Out-houses, been desaced or pulled down without licence from the Ordinary? and by whom? Hath any person encroached upon any Garden, Yard or Close, belonging to your Parsonage or Vicarage house? or cut up any Trees growing thereon? or changed or removed the ancient Parks and Bounds of the same?

III. HAVE you a true and perfect Terrier of all Glebe-lands, Gardens, Orchards, Tenements or Cottages, belonging to your Parsonage or Vicarage? As also a note of such Pensions, Rate-tithes, and Portions of Tithes, or other yearly Profits (either within or without your Parish) as belong thereunto? Have any of the same been withheld from your Minister? and by whom; as you know or have heard?

IV. HAVE any of the Antient Glebe-lands belonging to your Parsonage or Vicarage been taken away or exchanged for other, without the free consent of the Incumbent, and license from the Ordinary? have any Inclosures been made in your Parish, to the detriment of the Church by the decay of Tillage, and converting Arable Land into Pasture? by whom hath the same been made? and how many years since? and how much is your Parsonage or Vicarage damaged thereby in the yearly value thereof; as you know, believe, or have heard?

TIT. III.

Concerning Ministers.

I. IS your Minister a Priest or Deacon, Episcopally Ordained, according to the Laws of the Church of England?

II. IS he defamed or suspected to have obtained either his Benefice or Orders, by any Simonical compact?

III. HAVE he been legally Instituted and Inducted into his Benefice? and did he within two months after his Induction, publicly in the Church, upon some Sunday or Holy-day in the time of Divine Service read the 39 Articles of the Church of England, established by Authority, and there publicly declare his assent thereunto?

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IV. HAVE

IV. HATH he any other Ecclesiastical Benefice, Prebend, or Dignity? Is he constantly resident upon his Benefice amongst you? How many weeks in any one year hath he been absent from it, without urgent necessity?

V. HATH your minister a Curate to assist him? Is the said Curate in holy Orders: an able and discreet person, and conformable to the Laws and orders of the Church of England? Is he allowed by the Bishop to serve in your Church or Chappel? and doth he serve in any other Church beside? and what yearly stipend doth your Minister allow him?

VI. DOTH your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, in reading the daily morning and Evening Service, Administration of the holy Sacraments, celebration of Marriage, Churching of Women after Childbirth, Visitation of Sick, Burial of the Dead, and pronouncing Gods Commination against impenitent Sinners, use the form and words prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer, without any addition, omission, or alteration of the same: And doth he use all such Rites and Ceremonies in all parts of Divine Service, as are appointed in the said Book?

VII. DOTH your Minister at the Reading or Celebrating any Divine Office in your Church or Chappel, wear the Surplice, together with such other Scholastick Habit as is suitable to his Degree?

VIII. DOTH he observe the Holy dayes and Fasting dayes, as also the Ember-weeks, and the yearly Perambulation in Rogation-week as in the Common Prayer-Book or by the Ecclesiastical Cannons is appointed: giving notice to the Parishoners of every of the same in the Church in the time of Divine Service upon the Sunday next before?

IX. HATH your Minister been licenced to Preach by the Bishop, or either of the two Universities? If so, Doth he then constantly (unless in case of sickness, necessary absence or other reasonable impediment) himselfe Preach in your Church or Chappel, one Sermon every Sunday? Or if he be not a Licensed Preacher, or being so Licensed be hindered by sickness, or otherwise, as aforesaid? Doth he procure a Sermon to be so preached by some other Minister, a Licensed Preacher, or one of the Homilies set forth by Authority to be there read by a Priest or Deacon lawfully Ordained?

X. DOTH your Minister diligently instruct the youth of your Parish, in the Church Catechism? and doth he prepare and present

present them, being so instructed, to be Confirmed by the Bishop: And doth he endeavour to reclaim all Popish Recusants and other Sectaries (if any such be inhabiting within your Parish) to the true Religion established in the Church of England, and to their bounded duty in obeying the Laws, and submitting to the Government thereof?

XI. DOTH he neglect to visit the Sick, or delay the Baptism of any Infant that is in danger of Death: Is there any Child past Infancy, or other person of more years through your Ministers default, yet remaining unbaptized in your Parish? Doth he baptize any without Godfathers and Godmothers, or admit either of the Parents to be Godfather or Godmother to their own Childzen?

XII. DOTH he in his Sermons preach sound Doctrine tending to the edification of the people in the knowledge and faith of Jesus Christ, and obedience to Gods holy Commandments: or hath he at any time (as you know or have heard) preached any False, Heretical, Seditious or Schismatical Doctrine, thereby to seduce the people into parties and factions, to the disturbance of the publick peace and unity either of Church or State?

XIII. HATH he presumed to Marry any persons in private houses: or such as, being under age have not the consent of their Parents, without the Banes first published on three Sundays or Holydayes in the Church: or at any other hours than between Eight and Twelve in the morning; unless he had a License or Dispensation so to do?

XIV. DOTH any person preach in your Parish as a Lecturer: Hath he allowance from the Bishop for so doing? Doth he before his Lecture, read Divine Service, according to the Book of Common Prayer: and is he in all respects conformable to the Laws and Orders of the Church of England?

XV. HATH your Minister taken upon him to appoint any publick or private Fasts, Prophesyings or Exercises, not appointed by Authority: or doth he, or any other, either Minister or Lay person, hold any Conventicles or Meetings in private houses within your Parish for people of several Families to resort unto, under the pretence of Preaching, Praying, Thanksgiving or Humiliation, contrary to the Laws and Canons in that case provided?

XVI. IS your Parson, Vicar, Curate or Lecturer a man of a sober, unblamable and exemplary life: Doth he familiarly converse with ungodly, vicious, and excommunicate persons: Is he a frequenter

quenter of Taverns oꝛ Alehouses, a common Gamester ? a pro-
phane, oꝛ obscene Jester ? a Swearer, Railer, Scoffer, oꝛ Quar-
reller ? Doth he set Neighbours at Variance one with another ?
oꝛ encourage them to Suits and Contention ? Is he noted to be
an intemperate Drinker ? oꝛ vehemently suspected of Inconti-
nency with any person, either within your Parish, oꝛ without ?
Doth he wear his Hair of an immoderate oꝛ uncomly length ? Is
his Apparel grave and decent, both foꝛ fashion and colour, as the
Canons of the Church Require ? Is his Carriage and Con-
versation in any kind whatsoever, Disorderly oꝛ Scandalous,
and unbecoming a Minister of Jesus Christ ?

TIT. IV.

Concerning the Parishoners.

I. **I**S there in your Parish any person a known oꝛ reputed Here-
tick oꝛ Schismatick ? any Papist, Familist, Anabaptist,
Quaker oꝛ other Sectary that refuse to come unto the publick
assemblies, prayers oꝛ services of the Church, oꝛ that make pro-
fession of any other Religion than what is established in the
Church of England ? And if there be any such, what are their
Names ?

II. **I**S there any person in your Parish, that lyeth under a
common fame, oꝛ vehement suspicion of Adultery, Fornication
oꝛ Incest ? Are there any common Drunkards within your Pa-
rish, oꝛ common swearers, oꝛ blasphemers of Gods Name, oꝛ any
that are noted to be railers, unclean oꝛ filthy talkers, oꝛ sowers of
sedition, faction and discord amongst their Neighbours ?

III. **D**O any of your Parish upon the Sundayes oꝛ Holy dayes,
follow their bodily and ordinary labour ? oꝛ permit their servants
so to do ? are any shops kept open, oꝛ wares sold ? oꝛ do any Wint-
ners, Inkeepers, oꝛ other Victuallers and sellers of Beer oꝛ Ale,
suffer any person to tipple oꝛ game in their houses upon those
dayes ?

IV. **D**O T H every person inhabiting oꝛ sojourning within
your Parish, duly resort unto your Church oꝛ Chappel, upon eve-
ry Sunday and Holyday appointed foꝛ divine Service ? Do they
then and there abide quietly with reverence, order and decency,
during

during all the whole time of Common Prayer, Preaching, or other service of God there used? and are there any among you that come only to the Preaching, and not to the Common Prayers of the Church?

V. DOTH every person reverently uncover his head, and so continue all the time of Divine Service and Sermon in the Church? Do they all reverently kneel at the Prayers and stand up when the Creed & Gospel are read, making due reverence when the Name of our Lord Jesus is mentioned?

VI. ARE there any in your Parish that refuse to send their Infant-children to be baptized publicly in the Church unless in case of urgent danger: in which case, the child may be baptized at home by a lawful Minister, after the form and rites appointed in the Liturgy? Or do they send them to be baptized in any other Parishes, or after other form than is appointed? Or do they keep them unbaptized any longer time than the Church alloweth? And are there any Infants or more aged persons in your Parish as yet unbaptized?

VII. DOTH every Householder in your Parish cause their children and servants to learn their Catechism, and to give an account thereof unto your Minister as he shall require it of them openly in the Church upon Sundays and Holydays, as in the Book of Common Prayer is appointed: that when they are well instructed in the same, they may be confirmed by the Bishops?

VIII. IS there any person in your Parish who being 16 years of age, and well instructed in Religion, doth not receive the Sacrament of the Lords Supper at least three times in the year, of which Easter is alwayes to be one? Doth any in your Parish refuse to receive the same kneeling: or from the hands of your own Minister, repairing for it to other Parishes and Ministers abroad? Or are there any strangers not of your Parish, that forsake their own Churches, and usually repair to yours for it?

IX. HAVE you any among you that be denounced and declared excommunicate for any crime committed? How long have they been so excommunicated? And do any of your Parish keep society with them before they be reconciled to the Church and absolved.

X. ARE there any living in your Parish who have been unlawfully married contrary to the laws of God? Or any that being lawfully divorced have married again: Or any that being lawfully married, and not separated or divorced by course of law, do not cohabit together?

XI. A R E there any married women in your Parish, who after their delivery from the peril of Child birth refuse to make their publick thanksgiving to God in the Church? And when they come so to do, do they come decently apparellled, and make their offerings according to custom?

XII. A R E there any belonging to your Parish, who refuse to pay their duty for Easter Offerings to your Minister? Or any that refuse to contribute, and pay the rate assessed upon them, for the repair of your Church or Chappel, and for the providing of such Books, furniture and Ornaments, as be requisite for the performance of all Divine offices there?

XIII. D O any refuse to bury their Dead according to the Rites of the Church of England? And are there any Wills or Testaments of persons dead in your Parish, that be yet unproved? Or any goods administered without a due grant from the Ordinary? Did any dying in your Parish or elsewhere leave any Legacy to your Church or Chappel, or to the use of the Poor, or to any other pious and charitable purposes? What were those Legacies, and how have they been bestowed?

XIV. D O you know, or have you heard, of any Patron or other person in your Parish having the presentation or gift of any Ecclesiastical benefice, who hath made gain thereof by presenting a Clerk or Minister to it upon any bargain either for money, or pension, or lease, reserve of Tithes or Glebe, or any other part thereof, or upon other Simoniackal compact whatsoever?

XV. I S there any strife and contention among any of your Parish for their Pews or Seats in your Church? Have any new Pews been erected in your Chancel, or in the Body of your Church or Chappel without leave from the Ordinary.

TIT. V.

Concerning Parish Clerks, and Sextons.

HA V E you belonging to your Church or Chappel a Parish Clerk, aged 21 years at the least? Is he of honest life and conversation? and sufficient or able to perform his duty in reading, writing and singing? Is he chosen by your Minister, and doth he duly attend him in all Divine Services at the

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the Church? Are his wages duly paid unto him? or who withholdeth the same from him.

II. DOTH he or your Sexton (if there be any such appointed in your Parish) diligently look to the doors of your Church, that they be locked and opened at due time? And doth keep your Church or Chappel clean from dust, cobwebs, and other annoyance? Doth he toll or ring the Bells at the due accustomed hours before the beginning of Divine Service, Morning and Evening, that the people may be warned to come unto the Church? And when any person is passing out of this life, doth he upon notice given him thereof, toll a Bell, as hath been accustomed, that the neighbours may thereby be warned to recommend the Dying person to the grace and favour of God?

TIT. VI.

*Concerning Hospitals, Schools, School masters, Physitians,
Chirurgeons, and Midwives.*

I. **I**S there any Hospital, Almshouse, or Free School founded in your Parish? Who was the Founder, or is now the Patron thereof? And what is the yearly Revenue, or Stipend belonging to the Governours or Masters, of the same? Is the same ordered and governed in every respect as it ought to be? and are the Revenues thereof rightly employed, according to the intention of the Founder, and of such grants and ordinances as have been made concerning the same?

II. DOTH any man keep a publick or private School in your Parish, who is not allowed thereunto by the Bishop or his Chancellor, or the Dean, in their respective Visitations? Doth your School-master teach his Scholars the Catechism of Religion, set forth by Authority? Doth he cause them upon Sundays and Holy-days orderly to repair to your Church or Chappel: and see that they behaue themselves there quietly and reverently, during the time of Divine Service and Sermon?

III. DOTH any man in your Parish, practise Physick, or Chirurgery, or any woman take upon her to exercise the office of Midwife, without approbation and license from the Ordinary?

TIT. VII.

TIT. VII.

Concerning Church-wardens and Side-men.

I. **A**RE the Church-wardens of your Parish yearly and duly chosen by the joynt consent of your Minister and Parish-ners; or one of them by your Minister, and the other by the Parishoners?

II. **HAVE** the former and last Church-wardens given up their due accounts to the Parish, and delivered up to the succeeding Church-wardens the Moneys remaining in their hands, together with all other things belonging to your Church or Chappel?

III. **DO** you note them that come late to Church after Divine Service is begun, or depart before it be ended? Do you suffer none to stand idle, or talk together in the Church-porch or to walk in the Church, or Church-yard, during the time of Prayers, Preaching, or other Sacred Offices?

IV. **DO** you suffer no mis-behaviour or disorder to be done by men, women or servants, or children in your Church or Chappel? Are you careful that none of them sit, lean, or lay their Hats upon the Communion-Table? Do you permit no Minstrels, no Morrice-dancers, no Dogs, Hawks or Hounds to be brought or come into your Church, to the disturbance of the Congregation?

V. **DO** you against every Communion appointed in your Church or Chappel, provide a sufficient quantity of fine white Bread, and of good Wine, according to the number of Communicants?

VI. **DO** you cause all Strangers that Preach in your Church or Chappel, to subscribe their Names the same day in a Book provided for that purpose, together with the name of the Bishop that licensed them to preach in this Diocess, and do you permit no other to Preach?

VII. **HAVE** you (the Church-wardens and Sides-men) now sworn to give in a true answer unto all these Articles of Inquiry in all their several Titles, taken sufficient time to draw by your Presentments, and therein consulted with your Minister for his faithful assistance?



MICH. HONTWOOD.

